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Thursday, March 20 - Wednesday, March 26, 2014 Advertising/Newsdesk: 01235 511700 www.oxfordjournal.co.uk

No evidence that OAPs' lives improve with home visits

HOME CARE: 'NO ADDED BENEFITS'

OXFORD researchers say there is "no consistent evidence" of home care visits helping the elderly to live longer or independently.

By **Jack Johnson**
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

This has seen the authors of the PLOS ONE journal refuse to support government policies to make home care visits widely available.

Researchers from Oxford University and University College London analysed 64 randomised controlled trials, mainly in the UK, United States and Canada.

Experts say the effectiveness of some home care programmes cannot be ruled out but there is no significant evidence of benefits.

Trials spanning the last 20 years, which involved almost 29,000 people aged over 65 who were living independently, were investigated by the researchers.

Across all the trials, the effect of home care visits on mortality rates, falls, the risks of injury and illness, rates of hospitalisation or institutionalisation, and the overall quality of life was analysed.

Lead author Dr Evan Mayo-Wilson said: "The evidence amassed gives us an incomplete picture.

"As such, this review cannot support the policy of home care visits for the elderly.

"Any further research setting out to investigate the value of home visits would need to be conducted on a very large scale.

"Given so much time and effort appears to have been spent on this area of research already, any researcher wanting to carry out further investigations in this area would need to justify any further expense."

Sean Grant, from Oxford University's Centre for Evidence-Based Intervention, added: "We are not saying that those people currently getting home care visits should have this service withdrawn.

"In the light of this review, however, policy makers, professionals and families should carefully consider the alternatives when making decisions about effective means of support for the elderly in the community."

The review added that the studied trials provided limited information about what did and didn't work in the programmes, while quality of evidence was variable.

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Nuisance is jailed after 'kidnapping'

AN OXFORD man has been jailed for 38 months after he admitted to making nuisance calls to charities and businesses.

Martin Crowe, 51, of Dashwood Road, was charged with causing a public nuisance on January 1.

Just hours before his arrest, Crowe called a domestic violence charity saying he had kidnapped a woman in Warwick.

This sparked an investigation and resulted in Crowe's arrest.

He pleaded guilty to the charge while historic reports of similar phone calls have been linked to his phone.

In sentencing, Judge Ian Pringle said Crowe had "entrenched deviant sexual interests."

He continued: "You proceeded to make thousands of phone calls to various people, beauticians and charities.

By **Jack Johnson**
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

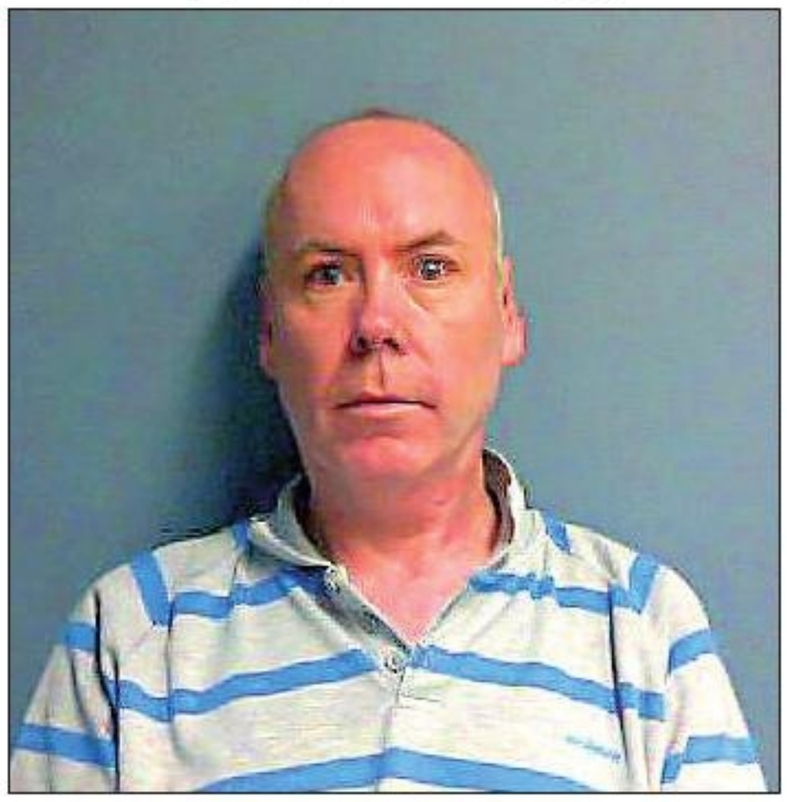
"Your actions had an effect on hundreds of people, causing extreme distress."

An investigation began after Crowe's kidnap phone call at the end of last year.

Investigating officer Det Sgt Mike West added: "From there, it was discovered that Crowe had been making phone calls like this across the UK, causing distress to hundreds of people.

"He now has time in prison to reflect on his actions and the effect they had."

Crowe was also ordered to pay £120 victim surcharge and amendments were made to an existing ASBO.



• *Martin Crowe*

Help through reading

A LIBRARY scheme encouraging people to read self-help books is set to be extended further across the county, according to Oxfordshire County Council.

The Reading Well: Books On Prescription (BOP) scheme allows people to choose from a selection of books to learn more about their own illnesses.

BOP is running at the Oxford Central, Abingdon, Witney, Banbury, Didcot and Thame libraries, but will be extended to other parts of Oxfordshire.

Jane Mason, reader services manager for adults at Oxfordshire Libraries, said: "It sees the library service working with health practitioners to encourage people to use self-help books alongside advice from GPs."

News Bites

Hunger strike

SENIOR staff of the Oxford Diocese took part in the End Hunger Fast campaign yesterday, by going hungry for 24 hours to raise awareness for unnecessary food poverty in the UK.

The campaign is calling on thousands of Christians to fast, following statistics that say around half a million people in the UK are dependent on food aid.

Rt Revd John Pritchard, the Bishop of Oxford, said: "Being hungry is one of the most miserable experiences. One day's fast doesn't seem much to remind myself of that."

Men arrested

TWO men have been arrested following an armed robbery of a Headington bookmakers last week.

The offenders, both believed to be Asian men, entered Stan James bookmakers in Roundway at around 11.30am, and ran away with a quantity of cash.

A member of staff was threatened with a firearm and told to hand over money during the robbery, and both men are currently in custody.

Investigating officer Det Sgt Mike West said: "I am appealing to anyone with any information about this incident to contact police.

"If you were in the area at the time of the incident or noticed anyone acting suspiciously, please speak to an officer."

The incident is not believed to be linked to other recent robberies in the Oxford area.

Call police on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

River bodies found believed to be those of missing women

TWO bodies discovered by police in the past week are believed to be those of missing women Sirzana Saeed and Jacqueline Gulliford.

The first body, understood to be Ms Saeed, was found in the River Thames near to Oxpens Road last Thursday after she was reported missing to the area's police force earlier that day.

A second body, thought to be that of Ms Gulliford, was found in a river in Cassington on Saturday afternoon.

Ms Gulliford was first reported missing from her home in Eynsham on January 14, which led to more than 80 people searching woodland in the nearby area in the following days.

Both are yet to be formally identified, but the families of the two women have been informed.

Pioneering cancer treatment trial

RESEARCHERS at Oxford University are preparing for the first human trial of a pioneering personalised cancer treatment, which could help tackle a wide range of late-stage cancers.

The trial will investigate the new CXD101 drug, developed by the university, and will also see the use of a new test to predict which patients could be successfully treated.

One major challenge is that all cancer patients respond differently to treatment, which makes it difficult for doctors to know how to best treat each case.

"When patients' cancers do not respond to a treatment, this can cost tens of thousands of pounds and cause patients to suffer side effects for nothing," said Professor Nick La Thangue of the university's Department of Oncology.

"Personalised medicine promises to prevent this by predicting how well a patient will respond to a drug before administering it and this is exactly what this trial will do.

"This is really the shape of things to come, and avoids the problem of testing drugs on patients who have little chance of benefiting from the treatment."

Between 30 and 40 cancer patients will be involved in the trial, who will be given increasing doses of CXD101 to determine the most effective dose.

Eatery faces £20k fine over illegal workforce

AN OXFORD restaurant faces penalties of up to £20,000 after it was found to be employing illegal workers by Home Office immigration enforcement last week.

Officers visited Mazza Café and Restaurant, on Cowley Road, last Tuesday, and questioned individuals about their right to work in the UK.

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By **Adam Flinn**

adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Two Pakistani men, aged 29 and 37, were found to have been employed illegally and were arrested at around 3pm.

The 29-year-old was found to be in breach of his visa conditions, while the 37-year-old had overstayed his visa.

Both have been transferred to immigration detention pending removal from the UK.

Mazza now faces penalties of up to £10,000 per illegal worker, meaning that unless proof can be provided that the correct right-to-work checks were carried out, it could be forced to pay £20,000.

Paul Smith, head of the Thames Valley and Surrey Home Office Immigration Enforcement team, said: "We will continue to track down and remove from the country those who abuse our immigration laws.

"Employers who use illegal labour are defrauding the taxpayer, undercutting honest employers and denying legitimate job hunters employment.

"I would urge anyone with detailed and specific information about suspected immigration abuse to get in touch."

As well as Mazza, officers also investigated the Chef Imperial restaurant on High Street, Woodstock, where four people were discovered to be working illegally.

This consisted of a 35-year-old Brazilian woman and a 39-year-old man from Malaysia, who were also arrested and transferred to immigration detention.

A Chinese man and woman, aged 32 and 44 respectively, were arrested and placed on immigration bail, and will be removed from the country if they are found to have no leave to remain

As a result, Chef Imperial could face fines of up to £40,000.

Anyone with information about illegal workers can call Crimestoppers on 0800 555111, and employers can call 0300 123 4699 for more details about right-to-work documents.

News Bites

Body discovered

THE body of a man in his 50s has been found in a property in Kidlington, although the circumstances of his death are not believed to be suspicious.

Police were called to a house in Buckland Court at 11.41am on Saturday to a report of a fear for welfare when they made the discovery.

Trial date set

JAYDEN Parkinson's ex-boyfriend has admitted killing the teenager.

Ben Blakeley, 22, appeared at Oxford Crown Court on Monday, denying murder but pleading guilty to manslaughter.

However, the manslaughter plea was not accepted by the prosecution.

Mr Blakeley is due to face trial on June 16.

More city fraud

THAMES Valley Police has revealed there has been nine incidents of courier fraud in Oxford since March 5.

Scammers are targeting the elderly and vulnerable, explaining to them that their card needs to be replaced and they should call the bank.

Unknown to the victim, the caller stays on the line and asks for a pin number before telling them their card will be collected.

Call 101 to report any incidents or 999 if the crime is in action.

Do you have a story to share with our readers?

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County's schoolchildren help make things crystal clear!

SCHOOLCHILDREN from across the county have taken part in a special crystals competition as part of Oxfordshire Science Festival.

Twenty local schools have grown 'Epic Crystals' in honour of the International Year of Crystallography.

Primary schoolchildren also met scientists and drew pictures of the many ways crystals are used as part of the festival.

Earlier this week, the best drawings, along with the most beautiful crystals, were displayed in the main window of Waterstones in Oxford.

Freya Ryan, nine, who attends Chilton Primary School, near Didcot, won the competition and her drawing takes centre stage in the window.

"I drew the diamond being hit by the X-ray beam," she explained.

Her school was also awarded an 'Epic Crystals' display of its own.

The competition was a collaboration between Diamond Light Source, the Science and Technology Facilities Council, the Museum of the History of Science, Oxford's Museum of Natural History, the British Crystallography Association and Oxfordshire Science Festival.

Prof Andrew Harrison, CEO of Diamond Light Source, said: "We want to engage children and show them that being a scientist is a very real and exciting option.

"We are hoping to inspire the crystallographers of the future."

• *(From left to right) Competition winner Freya Ryan, nine, with scientist Claire Murray and Noah Foy, also nine, outside the 'Epic Crystals' window at Waterstones*

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City council approves Westgate centre plans

By **Adam Flinn**

adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

OUTLINE planning permission has been given to a major redevelopment of Oxford's Westgate Centre, which will see John Lewis open its first store in the city.

The joint venture between The Crown Estate and Land Securities, known as the Westgate Oxford Alliance, will see £500million being spent on the shopping centre, scheduled to be finished in 2017.

Oxford City Council approved outline planning permission last Tuesday, following four years of preparation and consultation by the alliance.

There will be space for around 100 shops in the new centre, as well as space for cafés, restaurants and leisure, including a cinema.

A two-storey basement car park with between 900 and 1,100 spaces will be created, as well as up to 122 new homes.

Sara Fuge, development manager for the Westgate Oxford Alliance, said: "We are delighted that Oxford City Council has resolved to grant consent for this exciting development.

"Our investment will deliver an improved Westgate, which will enhance the attraction of Oxford for residents and visitors.

"We look forward to continue working with the city and county councils and the local community as we progress with stage two in developing our detailed designs."

Cllr Bob Price, leader of the city council, said the site's proposals were "long overdue".

"The redevelopment of the Westgate Centre is long overdue and our retail offer has failed to keep pace with the expansion of the local economy," he said.

"We are very pleased with the high quality of design, and the attention to the environmental impact of the development that Westgate Oxford Alliance has proposed.

"We look forward now to receiving the detailed designs for the four blocks and an early start of the construction work that will give a huge boost to local jobs."

Cllr Ian Hudspeth, leader of the county council, added: "It is fantastic to see this crucial and exciting development for Oxfordshire take a major step towards becoming a reality."

The alliance is now expected to consult further on designs for the new centre, before a full planning application is submitted later this year.

• Outline planning permission has been granted to the Westgate centre proposals for Oxford

£5m in drugs seized by cops in the area

FIVE people, including a man from Oxford, have been charged by police after an estimated £5million worth of drugs were seized in the Thames Valley.

The man, along with another from Woodstock, two from Rothersthorpe, Northamptonshire, and a Dutch national, were arrested and charged last week.

A total of 24kg of class A drugs, made up of 16kg of cocaine and 8kg of heroin, were taken by police. Over £50,000 in cash, a hydraulic press and various other drug paraphernalia were also seized.

Police confiscated the items on March 10 from a vehicle on the M40 near High Wycombe, a lorry in Dover, Kent and during warrants in Walton Street, Oxford and Randolph Avenue, Woodstock.

The men were charged on March 12 with conspiracy to import and supply heroin and cocaine, and will appear at Oxford Crown Court tomorrow. A 33-year-old man from Oxford was also arrested on suspicion to supply class A drugs.

Man, 49, jailed for three years for drug offences in the city

AN OXFORD man has been jailed for supplying class A drugs in the city.

Nickyan Bromfield, 49, of Hollow Way, was sentenced to three years at Oxford Crown Court last week.

Bromfield pleaded guilty to one count of possession with intent to supply heroin and another with regard to crack cocaine.

On January 30, he was stopped by officers in The Slade.

His vehicle was searched and drugs were found hidden in the fuse box.

Bromfield also pleaded guilty to one count of driving otherwise in accordance of his licence.

He also submitted guilty pleas for one count of driving without insurance and one count of possession of an offensive weapon, a tyre wrench.

PC Ben Jones, investigating officer, said: "This sentence sends out a strong message that action will be taken against anyone found to be supplying drugs, such as the class A drugs discovered in this case."

• Nickyan Bromfield

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Independent panel for big plans

AN INDEPENDENT design review panel has been set up to look into significant planning applications in Oxford.

The Oxford Design Review Panel (ODRP) will consider housing, infrastructure, civic buildings and the public realm.

Panellists will ensure there is a high standard of design for significant build environment projects while promoting consistency as the city develops.

Cabe, the government's advisor on design in the built environment at the Design Council, have been commissioned to establish the panel.

Architect Keith Bradley will chair the ODRP, with panellists consisting of Cabe experts and local practitioners nominated by Oxford City Council.

Michael Crofton-Briggs, head of city development at the council, said: "We want to ensure that we have the best quality of design for our future buildings that works within the demands of the historic city, but also can move with the times.

"Our aim is for the panel to understand how the city works.

"This is an exciting time as we progress with some major developments in the city."

The ODRP will meet, on average, once a month, and provide 'support days' to consider projects.

Corrupt cop jailed: 'Justice been done'

A FORMER Thames Valley Police officer has been jailed for stealing the details of road crash victims and selling them on.

By **Jack Johnson**
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Sugra Hanif, 26, of Bretch Hill, Banbury, was sentenced to three-and-a-half years' imprisonment at Winchester Crown Court last Wednesday.

She, along with Raza Khan, 27, of Ivy Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, was found guilty, by jury, of conspiracy to commit misconduct in a public office.

Khan was sentenced to three years' imprisonment.

Winchester Crown Court heard Hanif stole personal records from a Thames Valley Police computer and sold that information to Khan, between April 1 and December 12, 2011.

Hanif was found guilty this January and was dismissed by Thames Valley Police following a misconduct hearing on March 3.

Det Ch Supt Tim De Meyer, head of Professional Standards, praised the outcome.

"This was a serious case of corruption and it is right that she was dismissed from the force," he said.

"The thorough investigation of her crime shows how seriously Thames Valley Police takes these matters.

"It is vital that people have complete trust in Thames Valley Police and its officers.

"We are pleased that justice has been done."

• *Sugra Hanif*

Do you have a story to share with our readers?

Contact **Jack Johnson** on **01235 516932** or jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Residents team up with health chiefs as part of commission

THREE co-opted members of the public will join with councillors to sit on the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview Scrutiny Committee (OJHOSC), which analyses proposals for changes to health services in the county.

Moira Logie and Anne Wilkinson will join the committee, while Dr Keith Ruddle will serve a second year to sit alongside 12 county, district and city councillors.

Ms Logie previously worked in the NHS for 35 years, while Ms Wilkinson worked as a nurse and has spent time as a volunteer in Africa.

The committee will look at the performance of health bodies in the county, including the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group, Oxford University Hospitals Trust, Oxford Health Foundation Trust and South Central Ambulance Service.

Cllr Lawrie Stratford, chairman of OJHOSC, said: "I am delighted to welcome Moira and Anne to the committee, and I am sure that their vast experience within health services will be of great benefit.

"We are in the midst of a changing landscape when it comes to the way health services are commissioned and provided."

Cllr Stratford added: "It is the role of this committee to analyse what is being proposed and to get a good grip of what is going on for the benefit of the public."

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Last chance to get sporty for charity on Sunday

THERE is still time to book your place at this Sunday's Sport Relief Mile.

Hundreds have already signed up to run one, three or six miles at Cutteslowe Park, Oxford, and with only three days to go you can join them.

Cllr Mark Lygo, board member for Parks, Sport and Events, is pleased with the turnout so far.

However, he is urging even more people to don their running shoes this weekend.

"We are delighted that so many people have already signed up," he said.

"But we want even more people in Oxford to take part and make it the best Sport Relief Mile yet.

"So let's show the rest of the country what we can do and raise as much money as we possibly can for this incredible cause."

Visit www.sportrelief.com to sign up.

Do you have a story to share with our readers?

Contact **Jack Johnson** on **01235 516932** or jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Autumn date is set for lifestyle centre

By **Jack Johnson**

jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

STUDENTS enrolling at an Oxford college this September will be among the first to benefit from a new £6million lifestyle centre.

City of Oxford College, on Oxpens Road, is redeveloping its campus, creating a complex that includes a gym and hair and beauty salons.

There will also be a café, gallery, function room and outside space fronting the Castle Mill Stream.

Run on the college's learning company model, students will work in the centre alongside industry professionals.

Students studying hair and beauty will work in the salons while those enrolled on sport and exercise science courses will staff the gym.

Hospitality and catering students will operate the centre's café.

The facilities will be available to the public, with the salons and gym open during the evening, weekends and holidays.

College principal Ian Francis said: "This exciting scheme will give our students access to some of the most contemporary learning and work environments around.

• *The new £6million lifestyle centre and (inset) Ian Francis*

"We believe this will offer students fast and direct pathways into employment, by enabling them to develop skills and knowledge relevant for their industry.

"The lifestyle centre will also provide a holistic package of lifestyle services for local people, offering our customers the best in fitness, hair and beauty right in the heart of Oxford city centre."

He added: "Our vision is for the centre to become a haven for busy people who want a convenient, stylish place to work out, have a hair or beauty treatment or simply relax with a coffee and a snack.

"The centre will bring together learning and employment more closely than ever before, and we look forward to welcoming the first students to the centre in September."

Quartet held by police on class A drug supply charges

FOUR men from Oxford have been remanded in custody after appearing in court on conspiracy to supply class A drugs.

Two 37-year-olds, a 33-year-old and a 31-year-old were arrested by Thames Valley Police's Serious and Organised Crime Unit on February 27.

Approximately two and a half kilos of cocaine, four kilos of cutting agents, a hydraulic press and other drug paraphernalia were seized in warrants conducted after their arrests.

After being charged, the men appeared at Banbury Magistrates Court on March 1.

They appeared for a further hearing on March 7 and have been remanded in custody until a plea and directions hearing on May 23.

In total, seven people were arrested following the investigation.

A 43-year-old man from Oxford was also arrested on suspicion of conspiracy to supply class A drugs.

Two women, aged 32 and 28, both from Oxford, were arrested on suspicion of possession of class A drugs and bailed pending further enquiries.

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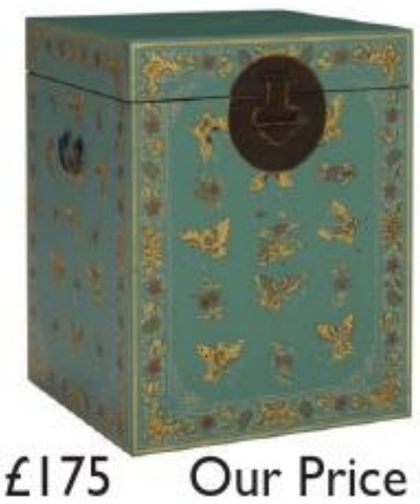

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Home style

Advertising Feature

Living by design...

A picture-perfect home decorated by a leading designer is beyond the pocket of most of us. Gabrielle Fagan asks three industry experts - Kelly Hoppen, Tricia Guild and Nina Campbell - to reveal their secrets so you can make that stunning interior a reality

Kelly Hoppen

By **Gabrielle Fagan**

Kelly Hoppen, interior designer and currently one of the dragons on BBC Two's Dragons' Den, whose new book is Kelly Hoppen Design Masterclass: How To Achieve The Home Of Your Dreams, says the importance of home cannot be underestimated. "The moment we cross our threshold, we should feel the cares slip from our shoulders and be able to enjoy being cocooned in comfort, safety and warmth," she says. "Our homes are, after all, our greatest asset, not just financially but also for our sense of wellbeing and happiness."

Hoppen's tips on creating a dream home: Good planning is essential, she says. "Write a wish list for your home. Don't worry about colour palettes, fabric choices or furniture at this stage - rather describe the atmosphere, the style of decoration you like, the things that will make you most happy, and how you want others to feel when they walk through the door."

Hoppen's 2014 trend tips: "This year there will be a bigger emphasis on modular and structured designs," she predicts. "Lighting will play an ever increasing role as its power is understood more. Good lighting is like a layer of magic dust sprinkled over everything - it affects mood more than any other factor and is not a design ingredient you should ever skimp on."

How can your book help? "This is my way of holding someone's hand through the journey of designing a home," she says. "That starts from analysing the space they have and determining how best to use it, to resolving choices of flooring, fabrics, furniture and lighting. "I show people beautiful homes throughout the world whose interiors I have designed. But most importantly, the book provides the tools and insight for people to achieve their own version of a Kelly Hoppen interior, if they desire, but more than that, I hope they can design a home that is all about them."

Get the look: Characteristically, Hoppen uses symmetry, such as a pair of low coffee tables or a pair of lamps to help bring a serene feeling of order, and taupe is her trademark shade.

• Below: Artwork and a dramatic sculptural shelf resin. The symmetry draws the eye in a white living area with its accents of taupe. Above right: Kelly Hoppen. PA Photo/Handout.

• An unusual Italian chandelier, 1930s-style dining chairs upholstered in Campbell fabricwall. PA Photo/Handout.

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Advertising Feature

Home style

•Left : Collingwood sofa, from £3,120, Nina Campbell Bleow left: Nina Campbell Below right: Tricia Guild PA Photo/Handout.

Nina Campbell

Nina Campbell is an interior designer with a portfolio of celebrity clients, including Rod Stewart and the Duchess of York, Sarah Ferguson. Her new book is Nina Campbell Interiors. "A home should be finished to the point that it is comfortable and is somewhere that you can live and entertain, but it must always have a few spaces yet to be filled," says Campbell, summing up her view of design and interiors. "If nothing ever changes, a house can become stagnant. I think it's always good to be open to new ways to display pieces and to subtly change decor to suit the season."

Campbell's tips on creating a dream home: "First of all, I think you need to consider a property and its location and thoroughly understand what you are working with. Then you need to decide how you want to live in the house," she says. "Then be honest about how you really want to live in the house - do the dogs live on the bed, do you want to lie full length on sofas or simply tucked up in an armchair? "Finally, create your own style. One of my biggest pleasures is sourcing furniture, bespoke pieces and art so that every home is unique. One client summed up this perfectly by saying about his interior, 'Nothing matches but everything goes together'."

Campbell's 2014 trend tips: "I think a more classic decoration is set to enjoy a revival, with a lot more colour, pattern and detail prevalent," she says. "People will enjoy displaying treasured pieces of furniture along with modern, new pieces. "Wallpapers are coming back into popularity in a big way and patterns are becoming bolder. Florals will continue to dominate and blowsy blooms and painterly designs will generally hold sway."

How can your book help? "As a designer I want to be a guide to achieving a client's desires and to be editor of their dreams," she says. "The eight projects in the book, including a chic city apartment, an English country home and a mansion in China, show how that process unfolds and works. "Each home caters for a variety of tastes from contemporary to traditional and has needed different approaches and solutions. I hope the book will inspire people to create their own elegant, comfortable homes."

Get the look: Luxury, subtle elegance and detail are at the heart of Campbell's style.

Tricia Guild,

Tricia Guild, founder and creative director of renowned fabric and wallpaper specialists, Designers Guild. Her new book is Colour Deconstructed. "What does a home mean to me? That's simple. It should be where you feel joy and happiness - it should feel like your own space, reflective of the spirit, life and loves of the person who lives there."

Guild's tips on creating a dream home "Colour can completely transform the mood of a space," she says. "Although people often feel afraid of colour, I believe we all have a colour sense - it's just a matter of tuning into it. "Once you start to be aware of this, you realise everyone has colours that wake them up, make them feel happy, sad or balanced. I love fresh vital colours used with masses of white to keep a sense of balance."

Guild's trend tips for 2014: "People are becoming ever more confident about using and enjoying colour and pattern and really appreciating how much it can enrich a home," she says. "Colour makes the heart sing, touches the soul and gives joy to the spirit, and that realisation will continue and get stronger this year."

How can your book help? "This is my 16th book on colour, flowers and design. In more than 25 decorative schemes, I show how colour and pattern, texture and function can be used to create stunning rooms, different moods and atmosphere," she says.

Get the look: Guild's signature style is a unique interpretation of colour and pattern.

25 years of A Touch of Pine

A Touch of Pine started selling pine furniture in 1989 from a shop in Eynsham. Albeit in a deep recession, the business took off almost immediately, with pine proving a popular type of furniture, particularly in the bedroom ranges, with it's solid long lasting structure. With the popularity of the furniture and the service provided by the company, another shop opened in the Abingdon Road, Oxford, in early 1990. Although a smaller shop, the same pattern emerged as happened at Eynsham. Without websites at this time, word of mouth was vital, regarding the service and quality of the furniture provided, another premises was purchased in Banbury during 1992 in a prime location on the Southam Road, and with a few alterations, the shop had probably the largest showroom the company had embarked on so far. The next location to be addressed was Stokenchurch in 1993, which was soon covering a wide area of the Thames Valley, selling many ranges of pine for the bedroom, dining and living room. With a fleet of vans now delivering everyday of the week to many areas, the service and quality of the furniture of A Touch of Pine was now becoming well known.

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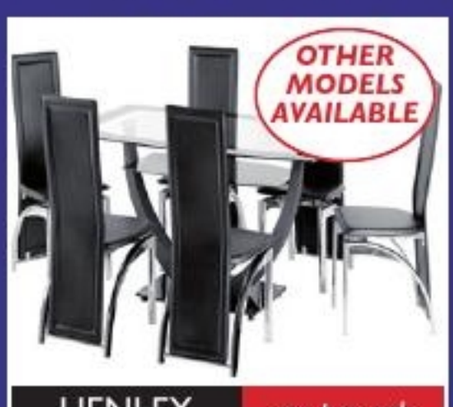

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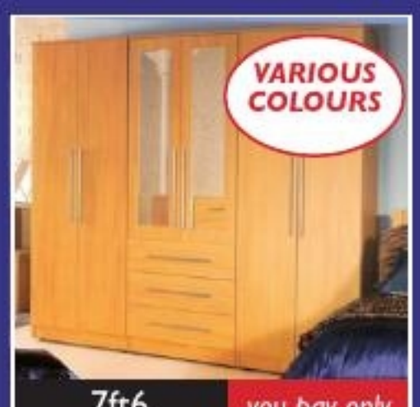

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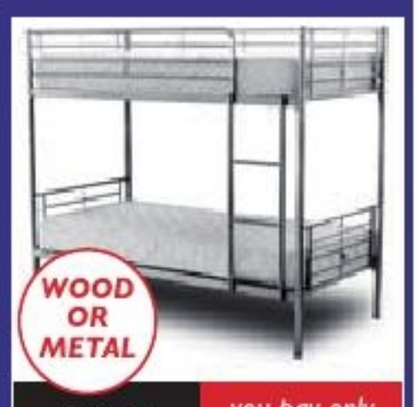

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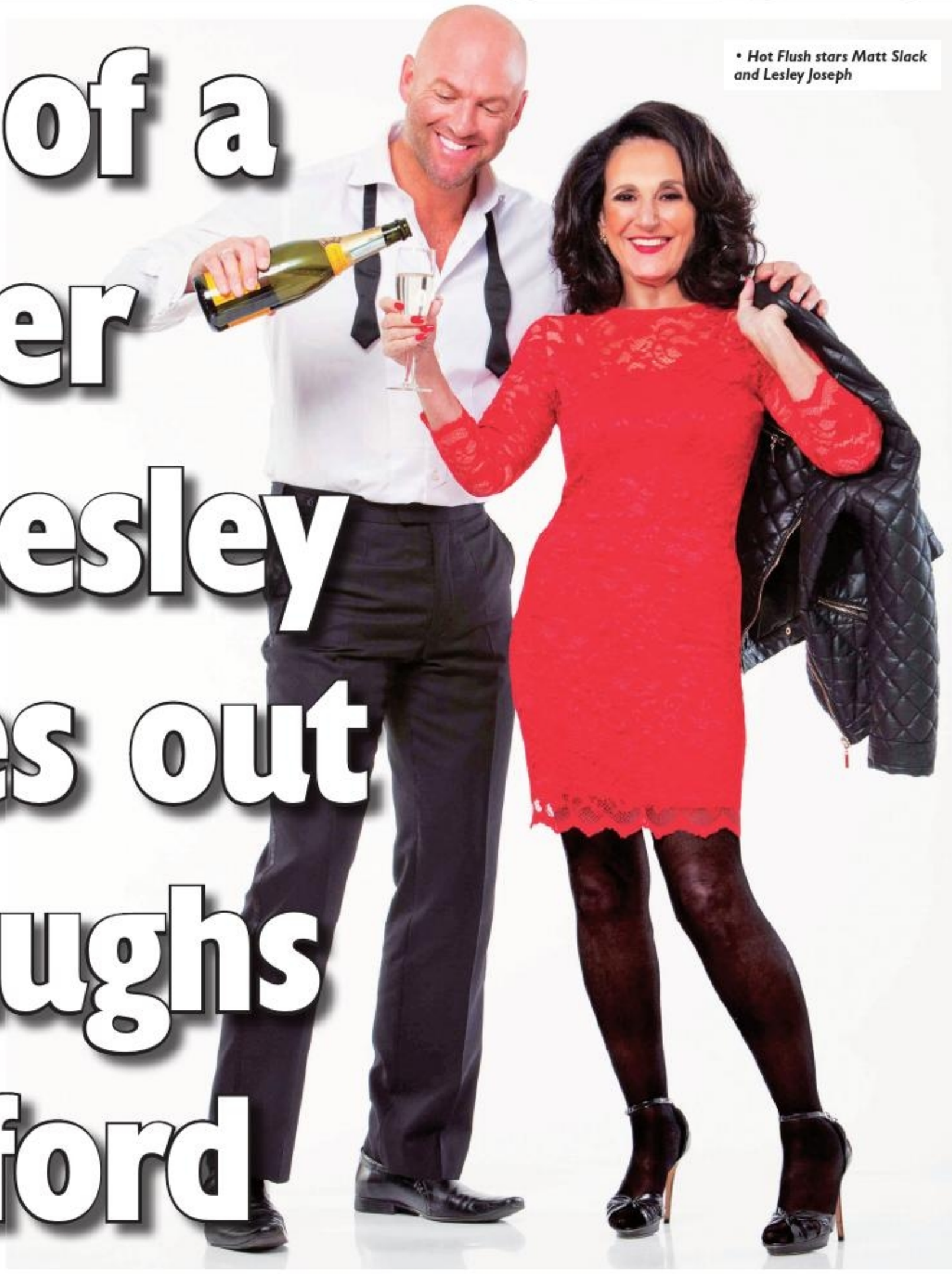
Birds of a Feather star Lesley flushes out the laughs in Oxford



• *Hot Flush stars Matt Slack and Lesley Joseph*

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Refugee Boy

REFUGEE Boy, based on the novel by Benjamin Zephaniah, is staged at the Oxford Playhouse on Tuesday and Wednesday.

It follows the story of Alem, a 14-year-old who while on holiday with his father in the UK, wakes up to find himself alone, after having become a refugee overnight.

More details of which can be found at www.oxfordplay-house.com.

Metronomy

POP act Metronomy, known for being quintessentially English, bring their UK tour to Oxford's O2 Academy on Tuesday, in support of their new album 'Love Letters'.

Metronomy's dance routines and light shows have gained them a big following, with second album 'Nights Out' taking them from a big underground dance act to the mainstream.

Funny people

ROB Beckett, Steve Gribbin, Marlon Davis and Tobias Persson make up the line-up at Oxford's Glee Club this weekend.

Steve, Marlon and Tobias form Saturday's show, while Rob brings his new tour to the club on Sunday.

Lesley is in town, and she's flushed!

'BIRDS of a Feather' star Lesley Joseph is coming to Oxford, as she stars in comedy musical Hot Flush at the New Theatre next Thursday.

By **Adam Flinn**
adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Hot Flush follows four feisty women who meet up once a week at a local bar to give each other moral support and gossip about the men in their lives.

Made up of Myra (Lesley Joseph), Sylvia (Lori Haley Fox), Helen (Anne Smith) and Jessica (Ruth Keeling), the quartet are collectively known as 'The Hot Flush Club'.

And Matt Slack also stars in the show, as he takes on the role of all 15 men in the production.

"It's the only show I've ever done where on the first night we overran by 15 minutes because there were so many laughs!" said Lesley.

"It strikes a chord because it's about menopausal women, and a lot of women identify with that. The Vagina Monologues started a trend, and Hot Flush is merely continuing that.

"Myra is middle-aged and frustrated, and like a lot of women her age, she's trying to find a new life for herself.

"But she learns to be herself and that she is worth something, and the show demonstrates the strength all the women have when they're together."

Lesley is best known for playing Dorien Green in 'Birds of a Feather', which returned for its 10th series at the beginning of 2014 after a 16-year break.

"Dorien is a nasty piece of work, but people really like her because she is also vulnerable," Lesley added.

"She can never be too successful, she still has to be stuck in Chigwell, but she takes life by the balls and just goes for it – a true life force."

Asked if Lesley thought she was more like Dorien or Myra, she said: "I'm not like either. I haven't got anything in common with them, apart from my age!"

Next Thursday's show starts at 7.30pm. For booking details, call 0844 871 3020 or go to www.newtheatreoxford.org.uk.

• *Joseph stars in Hot Flush at the New Theatre next Thursday*

The Only Way is Downton

ONE man comedy show The Only Way Is Downton takes place at Didcot's Cornerstone theatre on Saturday, performed by Surrey comic Luke Kempner.

The show combines the popular period drama Downton Abbey with contemporary reality TV series The Only Way Is Essex, with Kempner playing the roles of over 30 characters.

It starts at 8pm, and further details can be found at www.cornerstone-arts.org.

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'Inspiring and varied'

DIDCOT'S Cornerstone theatre is host to a free art exhibition until Sunday, featuring a wide range of printmaking techniques from local artists.

By Adam Flinn
adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Hosted by the Oxford Printmakers, almost 80 prints are being displayed that show scenes from around the world, as well as local areas such as the rolling hills of the Ridgeway.

Artists will be demonstrating their skills in etching, linocut and woodcut, as well as speaking about their work.

Catriona Brodribb of the Oxford Printmakers said: "The show represents a broad range of current work made by our members.

"Visitors have described the work as inspiring, varied and colourful."

Miranda Laurence, Cornerstone's arts development officer, said: "We're so pleased to host this free exhibition by local artists, which looks beautiful in our gallery and offers such a range for our visitors.

"Not only can you view the stunning works, but you can also learn about the process and techniques involved.

"We sold our first pieces within hours of opening the exhibition, and with prices starting from £40, we hope that many of our visitors will come away with a piece of unique art to remember the exhibition by."

The Oxford Printmakers was established in 1976, many of whom were artists who had studied at the Ruskin School of Drawing.

They are based at Christadelphian Hall in east Oxford and currently have around 90 members, with the workshop staffed by three part-time technicians.

Many of the prints have been created in the group's workshop, and are available to purchase.

The Cornerstone has around 10 exhibitions each year, showcasing the paintings, photographs and crafts of local and national artists.

For more information about the Oxford Printmakers exhibition, or others that are scheduled in future months, go to www.cornerstone-arts.org, or call the box office on 01235 515144.

• Jonathan Moss and Catriona Brodribb of the Oxford Printmakers (Picture by James Douglas)

The Tempest

OXFORD Chamber Theatre present The Tempest, the story of a powerful magician who has been marooned on a desert island, at the Old Fire Station tomorrow and Saturday.

Prospero was stuck on the island with his baby daughter for 12 years, and raises a storm to bring his enemies towards him in this adaptation of Shakespeare's play.

Rosie Wilby

COMEDIAN Rosie Wilby traces a personal journey through early '90s feminism, in a new show at Oxford Playhouse tomorrow evening.

Rosie's storytelling is interspersed with video interviews, music and photographs as she tries to find the collective of women who set up York University's feminist newspaper 'The Matrix'.

Ruby Turner

JAMAICAN R&B and soul singer Ruby Turner, known for having one of the greatest voices the UK has ever produced, performs at the Chipping Norton Theatre tomorrow.

Ruby has been singing professionally since 1985, and rose to prominence with hits including 'If You're Ready', 'I'd Rather Go Blind' and 'Stay With Me Baby'. It starts at 7.45pm.

Sean Hughes in Oxfordshire

STAND-UP comedian Sean Hughes makes two trips to Oxfordshire this week, with a show at Banbury's Mill Arts Centre tomorrow followed by heading to Henley's Kenton Theatre on Sunday.

He has numerous television appearances to his name, and this show takes the audience back through his life and tying his experiences with the present day.

More details about the shows can be found at www.themillartscentre.co.uk and www.kentontheatre.co.uk.

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NINETIES WOMAN
Rosie Wilby traces a personal journey through early 90s feminism to find the collective of women who set up Matrix, York University's feminist newspaper. Nineties Woman is an inventive joy of a performance featuring live interactive storytelling interspersed with video interviews, music and photo archive.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

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Academic Centre, John Radcliffe Hospital
DO YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT DEMENTIA?
This annual public event is organised by the University of Oxford, as part of the Alzheimer's Research UK Oxford network centre. Join us to find out more about the latest developments in research on Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. What can a dish of patient-derived stem cells tell us about dementia? What is Frontotemporal Dementia? What is the relationship between brain structure and function - particularly in language and social cognition? Can rehabilitation and physical activity help in brain recovery?
Hear about the interesting research and innovation projects that are taking place in Thames Valley region.
If possible, please contact us in advance so that we have an idea of expected numbers. Contact Joyce. Jones at tel: 01865 282668 or email: aruk.administrator@dpag.ox.ac.uk
01865 282668; http://www.dpag.ox.ac.uk/research/wade-martins-group-1/oxford-aruk-network-centre/oxford-public-day

22 March
Burton Taylor Studio
BLAST OFF!
Kid Carpet and The Noisy Animals make a welcome return with brand new adventure Blast Off! which includes an entertaining mix of live music, silliness and lots of laughs. The Noisy Animals are the biggest band in the world, and they're about to blast off into outer space on a super duper really fast adventure around a rock 'n' roll musical universe. Perfect for children aged four and over, and their families.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

22 March, 8pm
Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford
HARRY CHRISTOPHERS AND THE SIXTEEN
performing a programme of Tudor delights
www.ncem.co.uk/thesixteen

22 March
Oxford Old Museum
DON QUIXOTE
This work in progress showing follows the success of their debut show The Government Inspector, which featured the company's signature high-energy physical storytelling. Join Flintlock Theatre for this unique insight in the development of their latest work.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

22 March, 7:30pm - 9:45pm
Exeter College Chapel, Turl Street, Oxford, OX1 3DP
THE CHERWELL SINGERS - MY JOY, MY LIFE, MY CROWN
A concert of settings of the poetry of the British devotional lyricist, George Herbert.
The programme will include some of the well loved and often performed 'Mystical Songs' of Vaughan Williams and settings by Leighton, Britten and Harris, as well as by the contemporary composers Grayston Ives and Alec Roth. The organist will be Steven Grahl and the baritone soloist Mark Saberton.
Tickets available on the door or online at http://www.wegottickets.com/event/258642#.UyAy1vl_smB"
http://www.cherwellsingers.org/

23 March, 11am - 4pm
Waterperry Gardens, near Wheatley
SAXIFRAGE DAY
This is the perfect time to see our National Collection of Kabschia Saxifrages. These wonderfully versatile little alpine plants are looking their best in March and you can also find out more about propagation and cultivation techniques from our expert – and see a display of unusual plants from leading UK Saxifrage growers too.
www.waterperrygardens.co.uk

24 March
O2 Academy 2 Oxford
SAINT RAYMOND
http://saintraymond.seetickets.com/

24 March - 25 March
Burton Taylor Studio, Oxford
EACH OF US
Ben Moor returns with his new solo comedy about love, friendship and human connection in uncertain times. Funny, romantic, surreal and poetic, Ben's stories are always extraordinarily uplifting.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

25 March - 26 March
Oxford Playhouse
REFUGEE BOY
Alem is fourteen and in the UK with his father on the best holiday he has ever had. Until the unthinkable happens; he awakes to find himself alone, a stranger in an unfamiliar country. Overnight he has become a refugee.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

26 March, 8pm
St Mary's Church, Wallingford
TALK: THE SEARCH FOR RICHARD III - THE KING UNDER THE CAR PARK
by Richard Buckley who was leader of the archaeological team which discovered the final resting place of Richard III in a car park.
£8"
01491 651127

26 March
Burton Taylor Studio, Oxford
A CONVERSATION WITH MY FATHER
Theatre-maker Hannah Nicklin presents a moving and humorous performance about herself (a protester) and her dad (a retired policeman). It's a story about fear, bravery, what it feels like to be kettled, about the surprising similarities between both sides of the protest lines.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

26 March, 8:30pm
The Lamb Inn, Mill Street, Wantage
DAVE MOORWOOD'S RASCALS OF RHYTHM
with special guest Susanne Sheehy
To book a table for supper phone the Lamb on 01235 766768"

27 March
Oxford Playhouse
RICH HALL
Don't miss the opportunity to see this comic genius discuss the state of the world in his own deadpan way.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

28 March - 29 March
Oxford Playhouse
THE MIKADO
Set in the zany world of modern fashion with stunning costumes, this unmissable evening will delight both Gilbert and Sullivan enthusiasts and those experiencing this ingenious operetta for the first time.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

29 March, 8:20pm - 11pm
The Wheatsheaf High St Oxford
GAPPY TOOTH INDUSTRIES
£4.50 on the door, cheaper at www.wegottickets.com/event/255430
20.45 Halber Mensch
21.30 Sebastian Melmoth
22.15 De'Mask Thyself"

29 March
Burton Taylor Studio, Oxford
HOW HIGH?
A captivating family show for children aged 4 to 9. Join Hetty as she explores the world of height and meets an extraordinary new friend, in an adventure featuring hot air balloons, lofty tree tops, and stories of giants.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

29 March - 30 March
Oxford Playhouse
ATTEMPTS ON HER LIFE
With loosely interconnected scenes ranging from the witty to the deeply disturbing, Martin Crimp's utterly compelling play was first performed at The Royal Court to critical acclaim. Attempts on Her Life is part of the 2014 Radical Thinking season, which celebrates Oxford as the home of pioneering thinkers and ideas.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

29 March, 8pm
Cornerstone, Didcot
SCOTTISH FOLK SINGER EMILY SMITH
01235 515144 www.cornerstone-arts.org

31 March, 8:30pm
The Bullingdon, 162 Cowley Road, Oxford
BEN POOLE
"A talented guitarist, singer and songwriter with obvious blues/rock/soul/R'n'B/country and Pop influences it's hard to categorise the style and genre of this young man's music.
Tickets £8 adv. £10 door"
01865 244516 www.havenclub.co.uk
www.wegottickets.com/event/255676

31 March - 1 April
Burton Taylor Studio, Oxford
EACH OF US
Combining stunning puppetry, new writing and documentary material, the show tells a moving and darkly comic tale about the only certainty in life – death. How it's become removed from us as a process. How maybe we should reclaim it.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

1 April, 7:45pm - 9:15pm
Old School Room, St Peter's, First Turn, Wolvercote. OX2 8AQ
ANHSO - PLANTING FOR BEES IN YOUR GARDEN - DR JUDY WEBB
There is a national decline in all sorts of bees, which are major pol-

Oxford Journal Reader Travel

Imperial Cities

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From Gatwick airport

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- Return airport-hotel-airport transfer
- Coach transfer from Prague to Vienna, and transfer by train from Vienna to Budapest
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- 2 nights' stay at the 4 star Courtyard by Marriott, Vienna Messe with breakfast
- 2 nights' stay at the 4 star Lion's Garden Hotel, Budapest with breakfast
- 3 lunches and 4 dinners, including a Folklore Show with dinner in Prague and a Dinner Cruise on the River Danube in Budapest
- All excursions as detailed in the itinerary
- Admission to Prague Castle (including St Vitus' Cathedral and St George's Basilica); the Hofburg Imperial Palace and Schönbrunn Palace (Vienna); Matthias Church, the Fisherman's Bastion and The Statue Park (Budapest)

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01539 751252 quote OXJ
or visit: **www.oxfordjournal.reader.travel**

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www.thebellinnducklington.co.uk/

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E-mail: sales@sleepsolutionzzz.co.uk

Directions to our Carterton Store

Sat Nav – OX18 3FP

SleepSolutionzzz, Unit 7, West Oxfordshire Retail and Business Park, Carterton, Oxon, OX18 3FP.
Tel: 01993 840441
E-mail: sales@sleepsolutionzzz.co.uk

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THE SCENIC SETTLER - Saturday 21 June

Join us for a day out featuring the spectacular Settle and Carlisle Line, along with an afternoon break in the border city of Carlisle. Our return journey takes us over Shap summit, skirts the eastern Lake District and then Morecombe Bay.

FARES	Adult	Junior	JOINING STATIONS	Depart	Return
Standard Class	£85	£43	Didcot Parkway	06:15	22:15
First Class Plus	£135	£105	Oxford	06:30	22:00
Premier Dining	£209	£179	Banbury	07:00	21:30

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FARES	Adult	Junior	JOINING STATIONS	Depart	Return
Standard Class	£79	£39	Banbury	07:00	22:50
First Class Plus	£125	£95	Oxford	07:30	22:20
Premier Dining	£199	£169	Swindon	08:20	21:30

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Premier Dining - features deep cushioned seating, with silver service Full English Breakfast, 'Elevenses' & four course evening Dinner
Tables for two - with guaranteed window seats available at a supplement of £25 per person *(not Standard Class)*

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♦ Licensed buffet available all day ♦ All timings subject to confirmation ♦ Prices are from all stations ♦

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What's on in OXFORDSHIRE | LISTINGS

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linators. We can all do something to help support bee populations by planting useful species in our own gardens.
Judy Webb is a botanist and entomologist interested in encouraging bees in local wildlife sites in Oxfordshire."
publicity@anhso.org.uk http://www.anhso.org.uk/

1 April - 5 April
Oxford Playhouse
TRANSLATIONS
Translations is directed by James Grieve, joint Artistic Director of Paines Plough. Celebrating its twenty first anniversary year with this Irish play, English Touring Theatre's recent visits to the Playhouse include Ghosts and The Misanthrope.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

2 April, 8pm - 9pm
The North Wall, Oxford
VISITORS
In a farmhouse at the edge of Salisbury Plain, a family is falling apart. Stephen can't put his mother into care; Arthur can't stop working. When a stranger moves in to care for Edie, the family are forced to ask: are we living the way we wanted?
www.thenorthwall.com/01865 319450

2 April
Cornerstone, Didcot
DIDCOT FILM CLUB: REBECCA
01235 515 144. www.cornerstone-arts.org

2 April, 8pm
White Horse 'Live', The Ridings, Stonesfield
DAN WALSH
Banjo maestro and singer Dan
01993 898604 www.whitehorselive.co.uk

3 April - 4 April
Burton Taylor Studio, Oxford
JONNY & THE BAPTISTS
A raucous new show full of songs, satire and silliness. Ahead of the 2014 European Elections, join these Comedy Award nominees as theyamuse, engage and enrage the political spectrum.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

3 April
The Cellar Bar, Oxford
THE IRREPRESSIBLES

4 April
Cornerstone, Didcot
HAZEL O'CONNOR
Expect a soulful introspective dip into Hazel's stunning portfolio, the old, the new and stories from along the way. A sumptuous evening of some of the greatest songs of the 20th Century delivered with passion and fire. With a special Meet & Greet immediately after the show you're in for a treat!
www.cornerstone-arts.org

5 April - 21 April, 10am - 5:30pm
Waterperry Gardens, near Wheatley
EASTER BUNNY HUNT
Join the Big Easter Bunny Hunt to find our bunnies hidden around the ornamental gardens. Find 8 of the 10 bunnies and claim you special Easter prize from the Teashop, Miss H's. It costs £2 per child and children must be accompanied by an adult for whom the garden entrance fee applies.
www.waterperrygardens.co.uk 01844 339226

5 April, 7:30pm
Oxford Town Hall, St. Aldates
VERDI REQUIEM
Wantage Choral Society and Bicester Choral and Operatic Society combine to perform this much enjoyed work, accompanied by the St. Giles Orchestra. Tickets are £17 and £15 (senior citizens £2 discount) and £9/£7 for under 16s. They can be purchased from Tickets Oxford website or from the Vale and Downland Museum in Wantage.

5 April, 5:55pm
Various local cinemas
THE MET: LIVE IN HD: LA BOHÈME
La Bohème is the most performed opera in the Met's history and has received over 1,200 performances since its first performance at the house in 1900, only four years after it was first heard in Italy.
http://Metopera.org/uk

5 April
Burton Taylor Studio, Oxford
THE SORCERER'S APPRENTICE
A delightful show for children aged 4 and over, and their families, featuring spellbinding puppets. A young boy unwittingly starts to flood a castle with a magical enchantment - will he be able to undo the spell before the sorcerer returns?
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

5 April, 7:30pm
St Mary's Church, Streatley onThames
KARL JENKINS THE ARMED MAN, (MILLENNIUM MASS FOR PEACE), AND SCHUBERT'S MASS IN G
by Steventon Choral Society. Tickets £10/£8:50, under 12s free, proceeds to St Mary's Piano fund

6 April
Orchard Centre Didcot
DIDCOT SUNDAY MARKET: CHOCOLATE DELIGHT
0777 1967633

7 April, 7:15pm
Challow British Legion
PRIZE BINGO
01235 751210

9 April - 12 April
Oxford Playhouse
GUYS AND DOLLS
by Musical Youth Company of Oxford. Memorable tunes are scattered liberally through the show, including Luck be a Lady and Sit Down You're Rockin' the Boat.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

11 April, 8pm
Wallingford Town Hall
TALK: THE ROMAN ARMY FACT AND FICTION
by Dr John Smith an archaeologist who has studied the Roman Army for over 20 years and excavated and worked at Rockbourne and Bignor Roman Villas. This is a living history presentation, reviewing the historical and archaeological evidence for the Roman Army, in the Empire and South-West England. John will present Roman equipment and artefacts (some from the Camerton Hoard) and discuss their practicality, construction and uses, and debunk some popular and media portrayals of the Roman Army.
Visitors (£3) are most welcome."

13 April, 3pm
Henley Town Hall
ALLEN DIGITAL THEATRE ORGAN - JOHN MANN
£7 concessions £6.50
www.henleyorgantrust.org.uk

15 April - 16 April
Oxford Playhouse
THE RITE OF SPRING & PETRUSHKA
Choreographed by the renowned Michael Keegan-Dolan and performed by an international cast of 14, both pieces are theatrical interpretations created in response to the music that caused outrage and excitement in the early twentieth century.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

16 April
Art Bar, Oxford
PAUL THOMAS SAUNDERS

18 April - 19 April
Oxford Playhouse
FLOWN
Performed by Pirates of the Carabina, a 10 strong company of highly-skilled international circus artists. Prepare for brilliantly choreographed chaos in this big, beautiful and bonkers show.
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

Dan Walsh
Wednesday 2nd April from 8pm
WHITE HORSE 'LIVE', THE RIDINGS, STONESFIELD, OX29 8EA
Tel 01993 898604 www.whitehorse-live.co.uk

19 April - 20 April
Waterperry Gardens, Nr Wheatley
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www.waterperrygardens.co.uk 01844 339226

23 April, 7:30pm
The Mill Arts Centre, Banbury
MARGARITA AND THE HOUSE OF LOVE
This is the last chance to see acclaimed band Casa Margarita as they come the end of their Oxfordshire tour: Don't miss their brilliant story concert, bringing you tales and music from an unusual old house in Seville.
Incredible music by de Falla, Granados, Rodrigo and more."
01865244993, http://www.casa-margarita.co.uk/

23 April, 7:30pm
The Mill Arts Centre, Banbury
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This is the last chance to see acclaimed band Casa Margarita as they come the end of their Oxfordshire tour: Don't miss their brilliant story concert, bringing you tales and music from an unusual old house in Seville.
Incredible music by de Falla, Granados, Rodrigo and more. Fabulous percussion, strings and virtuoso castanets. With stunning mezzo-soprano Margarita. Come and feast your senses! This is a night that will delight your ears and your imagination...and it will touch your heart."
01865244993, http://www.casa-margarita.co.uk/

24 April, 7:30pm
The Art Bar, Oxford
RODDY WOOMBLE + JEN ORD
"Familiar to many thousands of music fans as the frontman in the Scottish rock band Idlewild, Roddy Woomble is also a celebrated solo singer/songwriter.
Roddy will be joined in Oxford by Jen Ord. A lifelong musician with a rich heritage in traditional English music, Jen has built a personal style that has only grown in clarity and potency throughout the years."

25 April, 8pm - 9pm
The North Wall, Oxford
WE WILL BE FREE!
A new play about the true story of the Tolpuddle Martyrs. George and Betsy Loveless were part of the group of Dorset farm labourers who were transported for forming a Trade Union in 1834 to fight against wage cuts inflicted by the local landowner. Their story is told using political cartoon, puppetry, and the musical arrangements of folk singer John Kirkpatrick.
www.thenorthwall.com/01865 319450

26 April
Wallingford
WALLINGFORD HISTORY WALKS
around the Castle earthworks in the morning, followed by a Town history walk in the afternoon.
www.twhas.org.uk

26 April, 8:20pm - 11pm
The Wheatsheaf High St Oxford
GAPPY TOOTH INDUSTRIES
"20.45 Blood Red Stars
21.30 Montmartre
22.15 Balloon Ascents
£4.50 on the door, cheaper at www.wegottickets.com/event/259647"

26 April, 5:55pm
Various local cinemas
THE MET: LIVE IN HD: COSÌ FAN TUTTE
http://Metopera.org/uk

26 April
Wallingford
HISTORIC GUIDED WALKS
led by Judy Dewey (local historian and Museum curator).
At 11am there will be a Castle history walk, followed by a Town history walk at 2.30pm. Both walks, lasting about 2 hours, start at the Museum with a charge of £5 for each walk. [unsuitable for dogs!]"
01491- 651127

4 May
New Theatre
LEGENDARY PROG ROCK ICON IAN ANDERSON
A selection from his new 2014-release concept album - which he defines as 'Folk-Prog-Metal' - in its more theatrical setting, together with a selection of Jethro Tull highlights.

£28 + £32"
0844 871 3020

4 May
Orchard Centre Didcot
DIDCOT SUNDAY MARKET: MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY SPECIAL

6 May - 10 May, 8pm
The North Wall, Oxford
INCOGNITO
Three stories explore the nature of identity and how we are defined by what we remember. Written by Nick Payne, Evening Standard Award for Best Play Constellations. Previous works include: The Same Deep Water As Me (Donmar) and If

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www.iacf.co.uk

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Sudoku

Place a number from 1 to 9 in each empty cell so that each 3x3 block, column, and full row includes each of the numbers from 1 to 9 only once. **EASY/MEDIUM/HARD**

	1	9			3	6		
		8	5				4	2
	6		1	7				5
9	7	6		8	4			
	2						3	
			9	5		8	6	7
3				4	1		2	
4	8				9	5		
		1	2			7	8	

5	6		9		2		4	3
			6	4	7			
	7			5			2	
6								2
	1						9	
4								7
	9			6			1	
			3	8	5			
2	8		1		9		3	6

	2		9					
5				7			8	
	9	6	1			2		
					2		9	4
		3				6		
6	7		5					
		7			1	3	5	
	6			3				2
					8		4	

Two speed crossword

Quick Clues Across

4 Rascals (6)
8 Angles (7)
10 Swooped (7)
11 Dances (5)
12 Concise (5)
13 Act of flirting (9)
16 Truce (9)
19 Melody (5)
20 Catch hold of (5)
22 Deep ravines (7)
23 Voter (7)
24 Enjoyment of cruelty (6)

Quick Clues Down

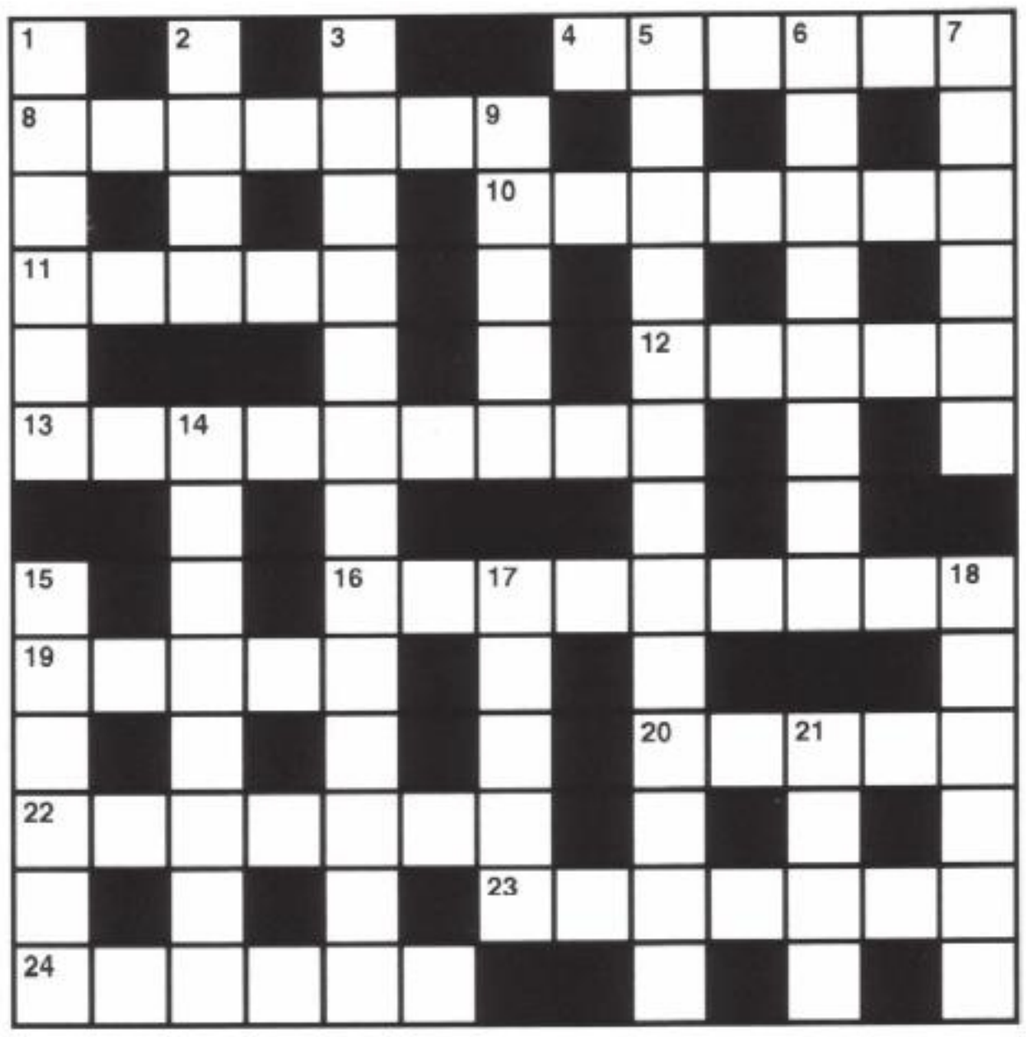
1 Afraid (6)
2 Right (4)
3 Discerning (13)
5 Confirmed (13)
6 Wheat paste (8)
7 Unexpected (6)
9 European country (5)
14 Decreased (8)
15 Loose shirts (6)
17 A rodent (5)
18 Specialist (6)
21 Opposed to (4)

Cryptic Clues Across

4 Investigated professional plot (6)
8 Time's up for charges (7)
10 Painful experiences of gold transactions? (7)
11 A right young man for the crime
12 Bringing down the bird (5)
13 Feeling they put me in mixed tennis with team leader (9)
16 Fruit stolen from barrel? (9)
19 It's forbidden thanks to jeering sound (5)
20 Postponement of French song (5)
22 Shows how Father attacks, we hear (7)
23 See it's a short distance after the crop to the barn (3,4)
24 Men of the trees? (6)

Cryptic Clues Down

1 Rails about five who are competitors (6)
2 Chooses to stop out (4)
3 Not 'Gentlemen, be seated' (8,5)
5 Important occasions for Moscow landlady? (3-6,4)
6 Food for Bunny is seen to flourish (8)
7 Wish to end hostilities in dire circumstances (6)
9 Loves to unravel mysteries (5)
14 Figured the Editor was less feeling? (8)
15 Plain but sounds elevating (6)
17 A blow to astound (5)
18 Go to the streets for these meetings (6)
21 The circle will see to the work (4)



Scribble space

Last week's solutions

4	3	9	7	2	8	6	1	5
1	6	7	3	5	4	8	2	9
2	5	8	1	9	6	3	7	4
6	8	2	9	3	5	1	4	7
9	7	5	8	4	1	2	3	6
3	4	1	2	6	7	9	5	8
7	9	4	6	1	2	5	8	3
8	1	3	5	7	9	4	6	2
5	2	6	4	8	3	7	9	1

2	7	4	6	5	8	1	9	3
1	9	8	4	3	7	6	2	5
5	6	3	2	9	1	4	7	8
3	5	9	8	6	4	7	1	2
8	2	6	1	7	5	3	4	9
7	4	1	3	2	9	8	5	6
4	1	2	9	8	6	5	3	7
6	3	7	5	1	2	9	8	4
9	8	5	7	4	3	2	6	1

6	2	8	5	3	1	7	9	4
3	9	4	7	2	6	8	1	5
7	1	5	8	9	4	6	2	3
8	7	2	3	4	5	1	6	9
1	5	3	9	6	7	4	8	2
9	4	6	1	8	2	3	5	7
2	8	9	4	1	3	5	7	6
5	3	1	6	7	9	2	4	8
4	6	7	2	5	8	9	3	1

Quick Crossword

Across: 1 Atheist 5 Emend 8 Hunt 9 Lighting 10 Obstacle races 13 Felt 14 Tags 17 Silver Wedding 19 Evidence 20 Ever 21 Tryst 22 Cygnets

Down: 2 Thumbs 3 Entitle 4 Solicitor 5 Ether 6 Evinces 7 Digests 11 Extremely 12 Dissect 13 Falsify 15 Gudgeon 16 Intent 18 Exert

Cryptic Crossword

Across: 1 Consort 5 Babel 8 Lair 9 Straight 10 Played the game 13 Aden 14 Tips 17 Demonstration 19 Cantered 20 Airs 21 Shape 22 Extends

Down: 2 Oracle 3 Strayed 4 Residents 5 Brake 6 Beggars 7 Letters 11 Heterodox 12 Indices 13 Ammonia 15 Pottage 16 Torrid 18 Niece

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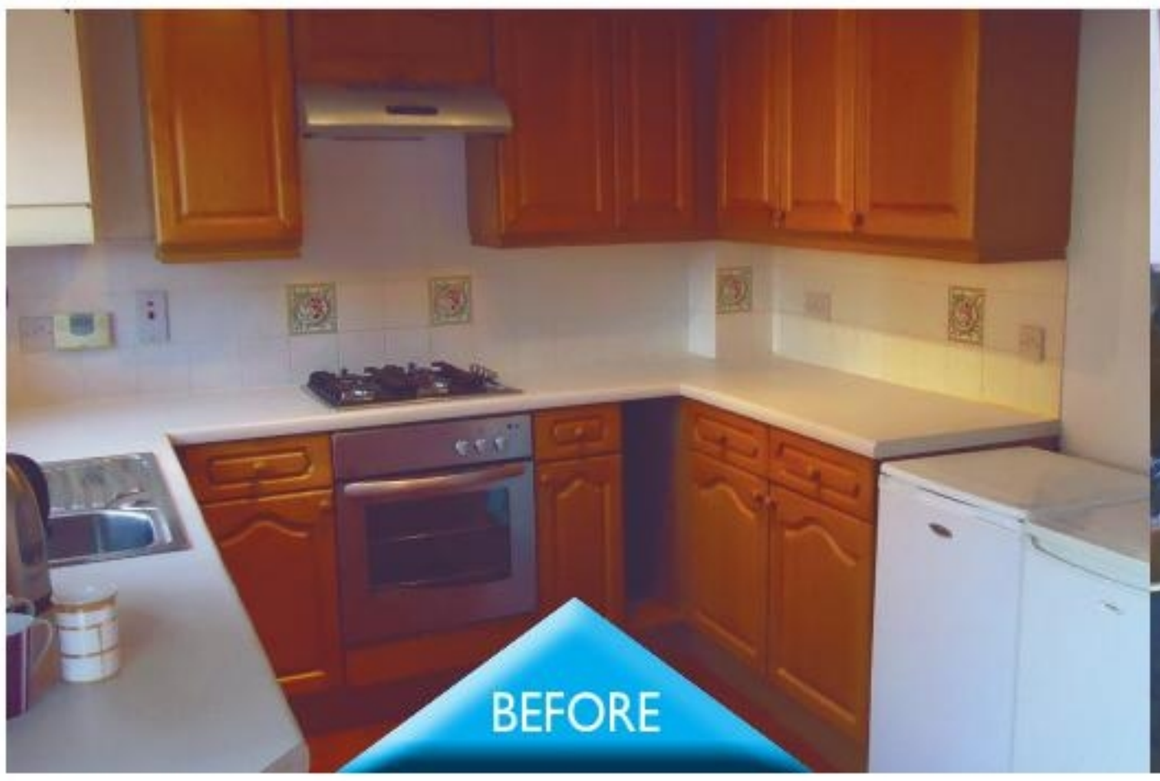

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We Will Rock You	7:30pm	£66.25	£99.95	04 Apr 14
Billy Elliot	7:30pm	£68.50	£109.95	12 Dec 14
I Can't Sing	7:30pm	£65	£109.95	24 Oct 14
Once	7:30pm	£69.50	£109.95	30 May 14
Phantom of the Opera	7:30pm	£65	£109.95	24 Oct 14
The Lion King	7:30pm	£65	£109.95	26 Sept 14
Mamma Mia!	7:45pm	£64	£109.95	24 Oct 14
War Horse	7:30pm	£62.50	£109.95	12 Dec 14
Wicked	7:30pm	£65	£139.95	31 Oct 14
Charlie & The Chocolate Factory	7:30pm	£67.50	£109.95	31 Oct 14
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New Citroën C1 set to be available in the UK from July

Hit the road this summer

THE new Citroën C1 will be priced from £8,245 to £11,935 when it goes 'on sale' in the UK in July.

It will be available in three trim levels – Touch, Feel & Flair - with airscape versions available in Feel & Flair trim. It's powered by two efficient petrol engines – VTi 68 and VTi 82 - and will go on sale to the UK public in July.

Available with three and five doors, the New C1 range starts at just £8,245 for the New C1 Touch VTi 68 manual 3-door, rising to £11,935 for the New C1 Airscape Flair VTi 68 ETG 5-door.

There will be eight body colours to choose from, including four metallic options, along with three wheel designs and four interior upholstery finishes. The fabric roof will be available in three colours for the Airscape models (Black, Grey & Sunrise Red).

The New C1 range is powered by two latest-generation petrol engines: a VTi 68, available with either a 5-speed manual or a 5-speed clutchless Efficient Tronic Gearbox (ETG), or as an e-VTi 68 Airdream 5-speed manual with Stop & Start technology. There is also the addition of Citroën's latest 3-cylinder 'PureTech' VTi 82 engine with a 5-speed manual transmission.

REVIEW: Citroën C1
By **Andy Allans**

New Citroën C1 Feel adds air conditioning, DAB digital radio, 7" Touch Drive interface with Mirror Screen technology and steering mounted controls, along with body coloured door mirrors and door handles.

New Citroën C1 Flair sports 15" 'Planet' alloy wheels and additional features including a speed limiter, rev counter, reversing camera, electrically heated and adjustable door mirrors, a leather steering wheel and dark tinted rear windows.

Optional extras include automatic air conditioning, automatic headlights, keyless entry and start and styling details, such as black leather upholstery and various interior colour packs.

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Official Government fuel consumption figures (Range): Urban cycle, Extra urban, Combined (litres per 100km/mpg) & CO_2 emissions (g/km); Highest:Citroën C1 1.0i 68 ETG 5-door Platinum 5.4/52.3, 4/70.6, 4.5/62.8, 104. Lowest:Citroën C1 1.0i 68 manual 3-door VT 5.1/55.4, 3.8/74.3, 4.3/65.7, 99. MPG figures are achieved under official EU test conditions, intended as a guide for comparative purposes only, and may not reflect actual on-the-road driving conditions.

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12	Mazda3 Sport 1.6 5dr Sport Nav, White Pearl, Manual, 10,465 miles	£11,750
13	Mazda3 Tamura MZR, Grey, Manual, 4,119 miles	£12,000
11	Mazda6 2.0 5dr Takuya, Aluminum, Manual, 26,464 miles	£12,000
11	Mazda MX-5 2.0 Miyako Roadster Coupé, Aluminum, Manual, 5,900 miles	£12,000
12	Mazda3 1.6 D 5dr Venture, Aluminum, Manual, 9,900 miles	£14,000
13	Mazda6 SE-L Nav, Diesel, Soul Red, Manual, 6,606 miles	£17,750
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13	Mazda6 Sport Nav 150, Diesel, Black, Manual, 10,255 miles	£21,000
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REAR bike carrier Thule with security locks cost £198 new used twice bargain £60 01993 778827

RV unit with slide out shelf contemporary style dark wood 84w 52d 34h good condition £25 Wantage 01235 799345

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LUCY Asian origin, 39yr single mum, loyal, loving, fit, romantic, honest, genuine, looking for older gent to romance, look after and fall in love with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 409713**

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ELAINE attractive 39yr old blonde single mum seeking respectful male/dad with similar interests for adult friendship, hopefully leading to love. looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 410117**

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DONNA 27yrs blue eyed blonde with cute dimpled smile, loves socialising but looking for that special someone with GSOH to cuddle up with, enjoy fun/good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 409733**

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ANNA, busty mature lady seeks no strings discreet meetings with male any age or location **Tel No: 0905 002 1956 Box 366O19**

MARIE slim attractive fun brunette, looking for good times with exciting broadminded male. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 409707**

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MARGARET OHAC, professional, sincere, adventurous, loving, kind, solvent lady who enjoys most things WLTM caring male with similar refined tastes. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 407925**

SUE young looking slim attractive blue eyed 37yr old female with wicked sense of humour looking for fun times, if you feel the same call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 409099**

JOANNA slim attractive blue eyed blonde nurse, divorced with two teenagers, lots of love to give, looking for Mr Right, call me lets put the spark back. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 409097**

man seeking

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WRIGHT: WE CAN'T THROW THIS AWAY

U's skipper issues rallying cry

JAKE Wright says Oxford United have worked too hard to squander a chance of winning promotion.

United were beaten 3-0 by Chesterfield last Saturday, a defeat that extended their winless run to six games.

The result leaves them sixth in Sky Bet League 2, eight points adrift of automatic promotion but only four points inside the play-offs.

However, the scoreline at the Proact Stadium was the least of United's concerns.

Tom Newey and Michael Raynes were both sent off, while United finished the game with only eight players as Johnny Mullins was stretchered off.

By **Jack Johnson**
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

All three will miss tomorrow's home game against Hartlepool United, while Dave Kitson (hamstring) is still a doubt.

Despite the recent form, Wright is determined to make sure United do not lose out on a chance of promotion.

"We've worked too hard and too well this season to get where we are and chuck it all away," said the 28-year-old.

"The last six or eight games haven't been good enough and we know that.

"But we can't put our finger on what it is.

"We are working and training as hard as ever, we all want the same thing."

Caretaker manager Mickey Lewis does have options when it comes to picking a side for tomorrow night.

Matt Bevans and Sam Long have impressed while Scott Davies can also play at full-back.

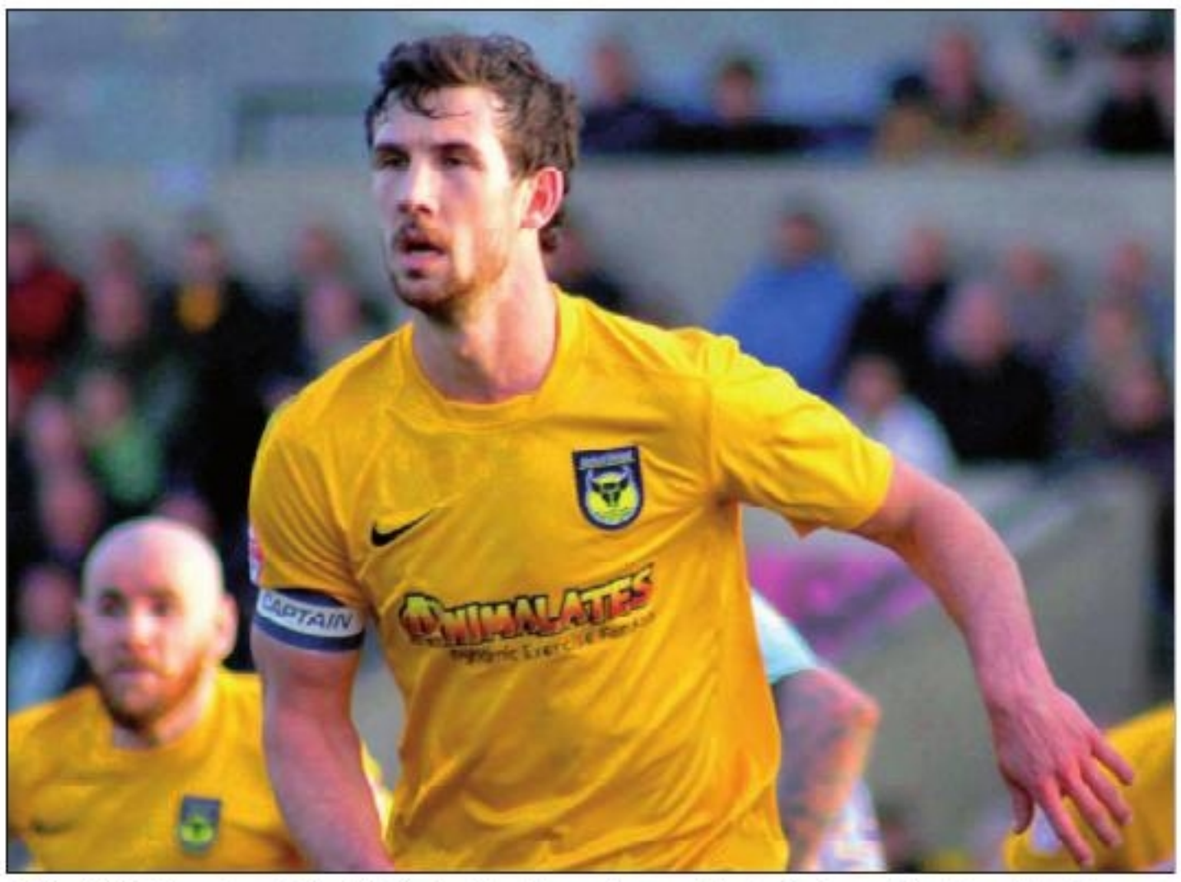
Andy Whing and Jon Meades are also back in full training.

However, Wright added that, despite who is playing, confidence is low.

"Confidence is low as individuals and as a team and it is something we need to put right quickly," he added.

"We're disappointed for the fans. We let them, Mickey, ourselves and each other down, but we need to turn it around and try and put it right on Friday."

Chesterfield	3
Oxford United	0



• *Jake Wright is urging Oxford United not to blow a chance of vying for promotion from Sky Bet League 2 (Picture by Steve Daniels)*

Symons is the hero as City secure late victory

MIKE Symons struck a late winner on Tuesday night to hand Oxford City a lifeline in their bid to avoid relegation from the Skrill North.

City beat fellow strugglers Histon 2-1 at Marsh Lane with Symons sealing the win with nine minutes remaining.

The win leaves them second from bottom in the table, six points from safety. However, a first win since Boxing Day will lift the spirits at City ahead of this Saturday's trip to second-placed AFC Telford United.

Mike Ford's men did not get off to the best of starts on Tuesday as Nathan Hicks put Histon in front after just three minutes.

It did not take long for City to respond, however, as Steve Basham fired into the bottom corner on 18 minutes.

Ford's side turned up the pressure in the second half and eventually got their reward as Symons slotted the ball into the bottom corner.

• *Mike Symons (Pic: Mike Allen)*

Burnell wants simplicity as Exiles conquer the Pirates

JUSTIN Burnell is asking his players to keep it simple after London Welsh's bonus point winning run came to an end at Cornish Pirates last weekend.

After three successive bonus point victories, the Exiles were limited to three tries in a 20-5 win at Mennaye Field.

Despite this the Exiles moved up to second in the Greene King IPA Championship, three points behind leaders Bristol Rugby.

Nick Scott, Daniel Browne and Carl Kirwan went over for Welsh but Burnell was left ruing several missed chances.

"Sometimes we try to overelaborate things when a simple catch and pass is best, and we would have had more tries," he said.

"We scored three spectacular tries, but it was just those missed opportunities.

"You've just got to let the ball do the work."

The Exiles welcome Bedford Blues to the Kassam Stadium on Sunday.

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